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THE WORLD'S BEST NEWS & FACTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

NATIONAL NEWS
US focuses on mental health
p5

ARTS
Big news for Harry Potter fans
p21

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Help bees in your backyard
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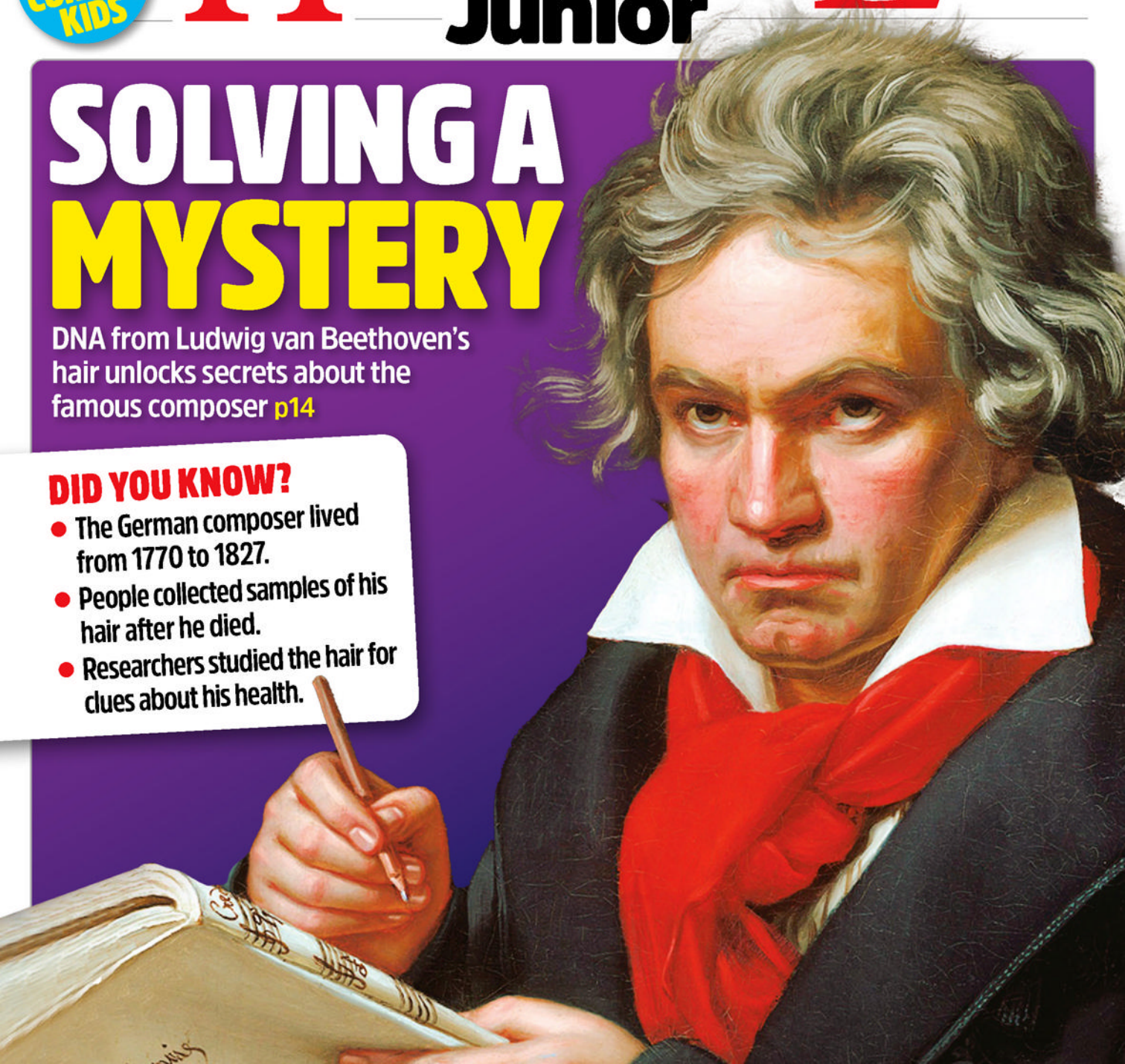
Making sense of the world

THE WEEK Junior

THE BEST MAGAZINE FOR CURIOUS KIDS

SOLVING A MYSTERY

DNA from Ludwig van Beethoven's hair unlocks secrets about the famous composer p14



DID YOU KNOW?

- The German composer lived from 1770 to 1827.
- People collected samples of his hair after he died.
- Researchers studied the hair for clues about his health.

ANCIENT NATION
Sudan's earliest inhabitants lived near what is now the capital, Khartoum, between 30,000 and 20,000 BCE.

Fighting in the distance in Khartoum, Sudan

Sudan fact file

- **POPULATION:** 46.3 million
- **OFFICIAL LANGUAGES:** Arabic, English
- **MONEY:** Sudanese pound
- **SIZE:** 710,693 square miles (Africa's third largest land mass)
- **RELIGIONS:** Islam, Christianity
- **GEOGRAPHY:** Sudan is located in northeastern Africa and has deserts, mountains, and hundreds of miles of coastline along the Red Sea.

Conflict worsens in Sudan

Violence that broke out in the African nation of Sudan on April 15 has worsened in recent days. When *The Week Junior* went to press on April 25, people were facing shortages of food and water, others were fleeing to safety, and the US had evacuated its embassy in the capital. The conflict is between two rival groups in the nation who are fighting for control.

What is the history of the conflict?

In 2018, Sudan's citizens held widespread protests against President Omar al-Bashir, a dictator (leader with total power) who had run the country since 1993. Together, civilians and the military overthrew al-Bashir and set up a new government, with the goal of turning it into a democracy (when people choose their leaders). But in 2021, two military leaders—General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo—seized power for themselves. Al-Burhan is the current leader of Sudan and its army. Dagalo leads the Rapid Support Forces (100,000 soldiers outside the official armed forces). Though the men started out as allies, they are now fighting each other.

What are they fighting about?

In December 2022, under pressure from world leaders, al-Burhan and Dagalo agreed to give up military rule of Sudan, combine their armies, and let civilians run the country. Since then, however, they have been fighting about how to do that, including who would have more power and what their roles would be in the new government. They have turned their armies on each other, putting Sudan's people in the middle.

What is happening now?

There is intense fighting across Sudan, with the worst happening in the capital city of Khartoum. Many of its 5 million residents are trapped in their homes with limited food, water, or electricity. Internet and phone service are mostly down, and hospitals, schools, and airports are closed. More than 3,700 civilians (people not in the military) have been injured and 420 have died, according to the United Nations (UN, a group of 193 nations working for peace). The two sides agreed to several ceasefires (pauses in fighting), including one for Eid al-Fitr, a Muslim holiday, but fighting occurred anyway.

How has the world reacted?

The US, the UK, the UN, and many nations in Africa, the Middle East, and Europe are trying to negotiate peace between the two generals. "The violence must stop," said UN Secretary General António Guterres. "The Sudanese people are not giving up, and neither will we," said Assistant US Secretary of State Molly Phee. "The goal is to bring an end to this fighting and a start to civilian government." In recent days, the US evacuated 70 diplomats (people who manage relations between different countries) and staff members from Sudan, out of concern for their safety. Other countries and the UN have done the same.

What will happen next?

World leaders will continue trying to bring about peace in Sudan. Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa are meeting to discuss ways to help resolve the crisis. Meanwhile, nations are sending humanitarian aid to the Sudanese people. "Civilians must be able to access food, water, and other essential supplies and evacuate from combat zones," Guterres said. Samantha Power, head of the US Agency for International Development, which leads global aid efforts, said the US is working to "safely deliver lifesaving humanitarian assistance to those who need it most."

Rocket explodes after launch

An uncrewed SpaceX rocket launched in Texas on April 20 and flew for about four minutes before exploding. Starship, at 394 feet tall, was the biggest and most powerful rocket ever built. NASA (the US space agency) wants to use a Starship rocket for Artemis, a mission planned for 2025 that will send astronauts to the Moon.

SpaceX said the explosion occurred because several engines on the rocket failed, causing it to lose altitude (height above Earth) and veer off course. The upper section of the rocket also failed to separate from the bottom, triggering a self-destruct system. No injuries have been reported, although dust and debris spread throughout the nearby town of Port Isabel.

Despite the explosion, NASA officials and SpaceX said they consider the launch a success. "With a test like this, success comes from what we learn, and we learned a tremendous amount about the vehicle and ground systems today that will help us improve on future flights of Starship," SpaceX said in a statement.

Starship taking off

A close-up look at the discovery

DID YOU KNOW?
The Galápagos Islands are a group of 19 islands in the Pacific Ocean, with a total land area of 3,093 square miles.

Coral reefs found in Galápagos

On April 17, scientists announced the discovery of a set of coral reefs in the waters of the Galápagos Islands, off the coast of Ecuador. The reefs are in an area of the Galápagos Marine Reserve that had previously been unexplored. Experts believe they are thousands of years old and in unusually good condition.

An international team of scientists made the discovery during an expedition in a deep-sea research vessel. The reefs were observed on top of an underwater volcano, between 1,310 and 1,970 feet deep and stretching across several miles. In most reefs in shallow waters, about 10% to 20% of the coral (the small animals that build the reefs) is alive, but the newly found reefs have more than 50% living coral. "They are pristine and teeming with life—pink octopus, batfish, squat lobsters, and an array of deep-sea fish, sharks, and rays," said Dr. Michelle Taylor, co-leader of the expedition.

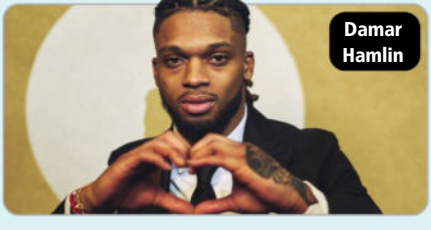
Experts estimate that Earth has lost about half of its coral reefs since 1950. After extreme weather in the early 1980s killed many corals, scientists knew of only one surviving reef in the Galápagos. Ecuadorian officials said the new finding shows that more coral has survived than was previously known.

The researchers plan to continue exploring and studying the reefs. They said that finding healthy coral reefs in the Galápagos Marine Reserve, which is a protected area, shows that conservation efforts are working. The discovery has raised hopes that coral reefs can still thrive in Earth's changing environment.

IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

A DINOSAUR MAP

A team of French cyclists created a "GPS drawing" by following a route that looked like a dinosaur when it was mapped out by GPS. They set a world record with the 636-mile-long route, which took 43 hours and 47 minutes.

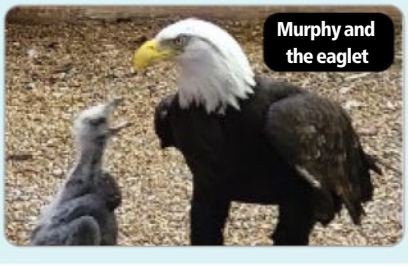

Damar Hamlin

RETURNING TO THE FIELD

Less than four months after collapsing on the field during a National Football League game, Buffalo Bills player Damar Hamlin was cleared to play again. Hamlin's heart stopped after a tackle on January 2. "This event was life-changing, but it's not the end of my story," he said.

BECOMING A FATHER

When an orphaned eaglet arrived at a bird sanctuary in Missouri, it needed an older bird to raise it. Staff knew the right guy for the job: Murphy, a bald eagle who was so eager to be a dad that he'd been sitting on a rock as if it were an egg. Keepers introduced the birds and said Murphy is "a wonderful, gentle papa."


Murphy and the eaglet

ON THE COVER: GETTY IMAGES (3); ALAMY; ON THIS PAGE: WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION; GETTY IMAGES (2); STRAVA; WORLD BIRD SANCTUARY/FACEBOOK; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (2); AP

Dominion Voting Systems CEO John Poulos, third from right, with members of his legal team

DID YOU KNOW?
The role of a lawyer dates to ancient Rome, when people began having someone represent them in court.

Landmark court case

The New York Times

In the 1964 Supreme Court case *New York Times v. Sullivan*, an Alabama official named L.B. Sullivan sued the newspaper for defamation. The justices ruled 9–0 in favor of the paper, saying it did not intend to harm Sullivan's reputation. The decision has served to protect the press in their coverage of public officials ever since.

Defamation case settled out of court

On April 18, Fox News, a cable TV network, announced it would pay $787.5 million to Dominion Voting Systems, a company that makes voting hardware and software, to settle a lawsuit (legal dispute) Dominion had brought against it. The payment is one of the largest financial settlements in a defamation case in US history.

What was the lawsuit about?

In 2021, Dominion filed a lawsuit against Fox for defamation. Defamation occurs when an organization knowingly publishes or broadcasts a false statement that damages the reputation of another organization. In 2020, Fox hosts said on the air that Dominion's voting machines had been manipulated to help President Joe Biden defeat former President Donald Trump in the US Presidential election. Evidence gathered by the Dominion lawyers revealed that the Fox hosts knew this statement was false before they said it on TV.

What happened?

As the trial was about to begin in Delaware, Fox and Dominion reached a settlement (voluntary agreement between the two sides). Fox would pay Dominion $787.5 million and not have to apologize on air. The TV network did issue a statement recognizing that some claims it had broadcast appeared to have been false. Lawyers for Dominion said the settlement was a victory for their company and for democracy. "The truth matters," said Dominion attorney Justin Nelson. "Lies have consequences."

Why is the settlement significant?

Defamation cases are difficult to win, legal experts said, because it can be hard to prove that a news organization knew a statement was false before publishing or broadcasting it. By settling out of court, Fox avoided having its owner and hosts questioned on the witness stand. If Fox had been found guilty in court, it could have had to pay Dominion up to $1.6 billion.

What will happen next?

Fox faces other lawsuits related to its coverage of the 2020 election, including one from Smartmatic, another voting machine company. Dominion will also proceed with lawsuits it has filed against cable news networks Newsmax and OAN for promoting false claims about the company.

WORD OF THE WEEK

EXPLODE

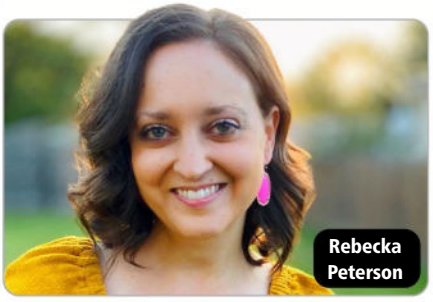
Bad performers were "exploded" off the stage in ancient Rome. The word "explode" comes from the Latin *explodere*, meaning "to drive off with hissing or clapping." It is made up of *ex-*, "out," and *plaudere*, "to clap" (which also gave us "applause"). Today's meaning of "explode," to burst violently, refers to the sudden loud clapping of Roman audiences.

THE WEEK IN HISTORY

April 30, 1803

Louisiana Purchase doubles size of US

On April 30, 1803, the Louisiana Purchase treaty was signed between the US and France. It allowed the US to purchase 828,000 square miles of land west of the Mississippi River from France, doubling the size of the US. The land cost $15 million (or about 4 cents an acre). The sale ignored the fact that Native American tribes, made up of thousands of people, were already living on the land that was sold.


Rebecka Peterson

US Teacher of the Year is named

Rebecka Peterson, a high school teacher in Tulsa, Oklahoma, has been named National Teacher of the Year. Peterson, who received the award at a White House ceremony on April 24, has been teaching math at Union High School for 11 years. The Council of Chief State School Officers said it honored her for always finding the positive in her classroom. Peterson will serve as an education ambassador for a year, visiting schools across the US.

One of the team's logos

Baseball team to change cities

The Oakland Athletics, a Major League Baseball team that is also called the A's, announced it will move to Las Vegas, Nevada, where it has bought land to build a new ballpark. The team has played in Oakland, California, since 1968 but was not able to reach an agreement with Oakland's city government to build a new stadium there. The team could start playing in Las Vegas by the 2025 season.

Special-edition records

Vinyl record stores celebrated

On April 22, National Record Store Day was held to celebrate the nation's 1,400 independent record stores. It was the 16th anniversary of the retail holiday, and artists such as Dolly Parton, Taylor Swift, and Billy Joel released special editions of albums for the event. Vinyl records have surged in popularity among music fans. In 2022, vinyl sales grew to $1.2 billion, up 17% from the previous year.

Spending time in nature can help people feel better.

DID YOU KNOW?
Getting enough sleep at night is beneficial to mental health, studies have shown.

Mental Health Awareness Month begins

Starting on May 1, the US is observing Mental Health Awareness Month. One in five people in the US has a mental illness, making it important to raise awareness about how people can care for their mental health and support one another.

Mental health is related to how people think, feel, and behave. While everyone feels anxious or sad at times, when these feelings persist they can develop into more serious conditions. Anxiety is having feelings of worry or fear that won't go away. Depression is when someone feels sad for a long time and loses interest in activities they usually enjoy.

The organization Mental Health America is running an initiative called "Look Around, Look Within." As part of "looking around," it wants people to know that safe housing, a healthy home environment, and being outdoors can help with mental health. To "look within," it encourages people to get mental health screenings with a healthcare provider.

Regular activity can improve mental health.

The National Alliance for Mental Illness is launching a campaign called "More Than Enough." It aims to show people that no matter what their circumstances are, they deserve to feel healthy and be treated with kindness and love. It is inviting people to organize events, such as walks, to raise awareness of the importance of mental health.

On May 18, hundreds of organizations will team up for Mental Health Action Day. In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the National Youth Foundation will hold poetry and art workshops to help young people process their feelings. The Climate Mental Health Network is hosting an event in Los Angeles, California, to address how the climate crisis can affect mental health.

Experts want everyone to know that when someone is having a hard time it is not their fault. If you are ever feeling sad, anxious, or not like yourself, talk to a trusted adult. More information is available at mhanational.org/may.

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Police corral runaway ostrich in Czech city" *UPI*

GETTY IMAGES (4); @REBECKAPETERSON4205/YOUTUBE; RECORD STORE DAY (2); ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3); NYT

Around the world

A protester in costume

United Kingdom
Protests held for Earth Day

Activists from the environmental group Extinction Rebellion (XR) and more than 200 other organizations participated in a protest in London, England, during Earth Day weekend. Over four days, protesters held signs, danced, and wore costumes to bring attention to climate change. The event marked a change for XR, which in the past used disruptive protest tactics like throwing paint but recently vowed to use more peaceful methods.

Reggio School

Madrid, Spain
School features nature-inspired design

Students have helped to design an elementary and middle school that is connected to nature. Reggio School has a drawbridge entrance, walls made from mashed cork (which provide a home for insects), and a two-story-high indoor rainforest. The school was designed by Spanish architect Andrés Jaque, who asked students and teachers for ideas. One student observed, "It looks like a robot made of butter."

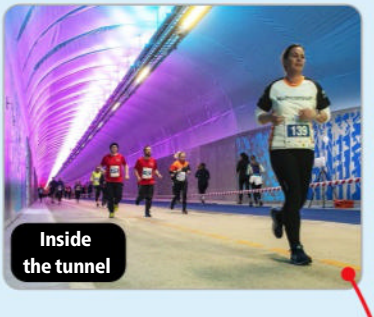
Migrants marching

Mexico
Migrants march in protest

About 3,000 migrants (people who have left their home country in search of a better life) are marching about 750 miles to protest unsafe detention centers. Many migrants are held in overcrowded centers in Mexico, waiting for permission to enter the US. Last month, at least 39 people died in a detention center when a fire broke out.

Bergen, Norway
Pedestrian tunnel opens

A tunnel for walkers, runners, and cyclists that runs through the base of Løvstakken mountain has opened. Stretching nearly two miles, it is the world's longest tunnel built specifically for pedestrians and cyclists. The tunnel, called the Fyllingsdalstunnelen, has separate lanes for cyclists and those who are walking or running.


Inside the tunnel

Abidjan, Ivory Coast
Building is transformed

Artists from the Ivory Coast and around the world have painted colorful murals (large wall paintings) on a famous building in Abidjan. The Pyramid, a 15-story building, was once a symbol of success, but it has been neglected for 20 years. A project to revive it, called "Pyramid 2023, Tomorrow Is Already Born," was led by artistic director Lemon Otto and aims to promote the country's creativity.

The Pyramid with murals

IVER DAALAND/ÅSE BYRAHEN UTBY; REUTERS (2); ANDRÉS JAQUE/OFFICE FOR POLITICAL INNOVATION TEAM; GETTY IMAGES (3); GHISLAIN KAMAGE; ALAMY; SHUTTERSTOCK

Solar panels in the sun

Czech Republic
Solar power gets shut down

Sunny weather led an energy company to unplug hundreds of solar panels after they generated more power than the nation's grid could handle. The grid delivers electricity from power plants to homes and businesses. Too much could damage the grid. Experts say that as countries use more renewable energy, they must find ways to store it.

Paying respects

Warsaw, Poland
Warsaw Uprising anniversary marked

Holocaust survivors and their families joined world leaders in Warsaw to mark 80 years since the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. The Holocaust was the mass killing of 6 million Jewish men, women, and children and millions of other people by the German Nazi party in the 1930s and 1940s. Up to 500,000 Jews were forced to live in the Warsaw ghetto. In 1943, they staged an uprising to fight back. The Nazis killed 10,000 people in response.

Cooling off with ice cream

Bangkok, Thailand
Heat soars to new highs

Weather officials reported that the heat index in Bangkok, Thailand's capital, hit a record high of 129° F on April 22. The heat index measures how hot people feel, factoring in the humidity (amount of moisture in the air), which can make the recorded temperature feel hotter. Thailand also recorded its highest temperature in April in Tak, in the northwest part of the country, where it hit 113.7° F.

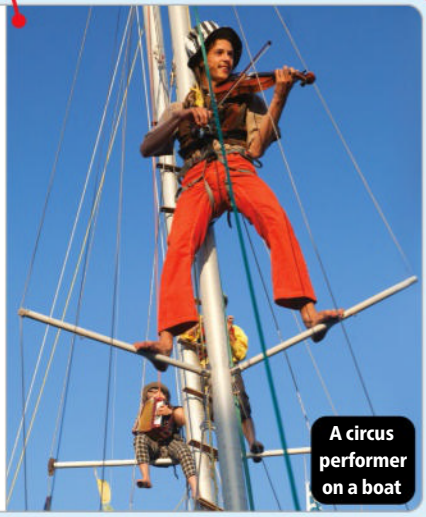
Two toque macaques

Sri Lanka
A controversial plan to sell monkeys

Sri Lanka is considering selling 100,000 toque macaque monkeys to zoos across China to help pay down a $7 billion debt owed to the country. Sri Lanka is experiencing its worst financial crisis in decades. Many people don't have enough food, and farmers blame the monkeys for damaging crops. Critics of the plan say the macaques could end up as food or used in medical testing.

Greece
Circus sets sail

The Sea Clown Sailing Circus is traveling around Greece's islands on three boats this summer, playfully performing with an environmental message for locals and tourists. Circus members sail to a new port every few days and perform tightrope tricks, fire-eating feats, and clown shows. Their goal is to inspire audiences to protect the marine ecosystem, while their shows also fund a project that helps children learn through art.


A circus performer on a boat

Should publishers revise old books?

Some people are upset about updates to books that were written decades ago.

What you need to know

- **When old books are reprinted for modern readers, publishers often make small edits to the original work.**
- **New versions of some books by British author Roald Dahl were recently edited to remove language that people might find offensive.**
- **Roald Dahl, who died in 1990, wrote such books as *Matilda*, *The Twits*, *The Witches*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and *The BFG*. They were published from the 1960s to the 1980s.**

In February, the publishing company Puffin released new versions of some books by Roald Dahl that had been edited to remove or replace offensive language. Dahl's original work included terms that were once considered acceptable but that many people today find upsetting, such as describing characters as "fat" and "ugly." Puffin said it changed those words and others so the books "can continue to be enjoyed by all." Many people criticized the move, however, saying it amounted to censorship (bans on people's ideas or language). Others say it's good to remove outdated and hurtful language. What do you think? Should publishers revise old books?

Yes—times and language change

Society's values are always changing. What would have been acceptable to say or do 50 years ago might not be OK anymore. People are right to point out when somebody says something hurtful, so the same should apply to books with offensive language. A careful editor is able to successfully remove words or terms that upset people without changing the characters, plot, and tone originally created by the author. The most important thing is that children (and adults) read books—and lots of them. Any minor changes to the text that make Dahl's—or another writer's—stories more accessible and inclusive are a good thing.

No—books should be left as they are

Censorship is dangerous because it limits what a person can say or how they express themselves. If we allow people to censor one author's work, what's to stop them from doing the same to every author's work in the future? If somebody disagrees with an opinion or is offended by an idea, it doesn't mean no one else should hear it. A healthy society embraces many different beliefs and points of view. If some people find certain words or descriptions upsetting, the best approach isn't to ban or change them but to discuss, debate, and make people aware of why the material is hurtful. It can help people learn and understand.

YES Three reasons why publishers should revise old books

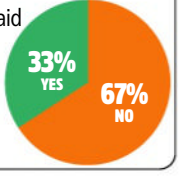
1. **Attitudes change over time and what was once acceptable might be genuinely hurtful or harmful now.**
2. **It's possible to remove offensive language without changing the overall book.**
3. **Anything that makes books more accessible and inclusive is a good thing because it encourages reading.**

NO Three reasons why publishers should not revise old books

1. **Censorship is dangerous and can lead to voices and opinions being silenced. Once it starts, it's very hard to stop.**
2. **If one person doesn't like something, it doesn't mean other people will agree.**
3. **It's better to leave books unchanged so people can discuss them and learn why others might find the material unkind.**

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked if plant-based drinks should be called milk. Most of you said no, but a third of you said yes, they're milk and it's OK to call them that.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think publishers should revise old books or NO if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.

ALAMY

Teaching the joy of drawing

Mark Kistler's career is dedicated to inspiring young people to be creative.

Award-winning TV host, illustrator, and educator Mark Kistler has had a passion for art since elementary school. He has also written 20 books, including his latest, *Half Hour of Pencil Power*.

During his childhood, Kistler's mother encouraged his love of art. She let him create murals on his bedroom walls and draw with peanut butter on the kitchen floor, he told *The Week Junior.* When he ran afterschool art classes for kids during high school, he realized he also enjoyed teaching art to others.

Kistler's artwork

In 1981, Kistler began teaching 3D drawing workshops at schools in Southern California. The workshops drew the attention of a public television producer, leading Kistler to his big break in TV at the age of 21. He began hosting *The Secret City*.an art show on PBS Kids. On the show, he took on the TV personality that he is now best known for: Commander Mark. Later, he hosted *Mark Kistler's Imagination Station* and won the 2009–2010 Northern California Emmy (top TV award) in the Instructional Program category.

Half Hour of Pencil Power offers 25 step-by-step guides for drawing pictures. For example, kids can draw singing sharks and penguins in parachutes. The book was inspired by the virtual classes Kistler taught on YouTube with his son during the pandemic.

Kistler advises young people to go on "dream quests," which he defines as taking the time to try new things and discover what you're passionate about. He also recommends sharing your dreams with others because they may be able to help. "You will find that your joyful, determined pursuit of your dream will inspire everyone around you," he said.

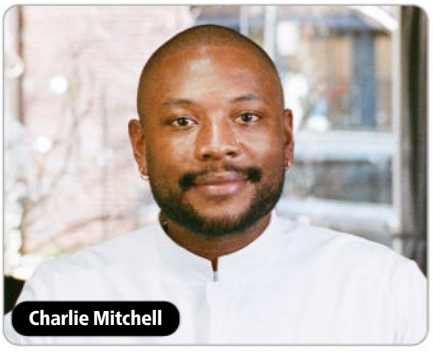
Mark Kistler

DID YOU KNOW?
The world's oldest-known drawing was found in an Indonesian cave in 2021. It dates back more than 45,000 years.

Top player goes pro

Aliyah Boston, a basketball player at the University of South Carolina, was the overall first pick during the Women's National Basketball Association draft. The Indiana Fever selected the star forward, who grew up in the US Virgin Islands. She is considered to have had one of the most accomplished careers in college basketball history. In 2022, she led her team to a national title and was named the Naismith College Player of the Year. "I'm just ready to get there and get to work," Boston said about joining the Fever.

Aliyah Boston



Charlie Mitchell

Chef breaks barriers

Executive Chef Charlie Mitchell's restaurant—Clover Hill in Brooklyn, New York—has been awarded a Michelin star, one of the world's top honors in the food industry. He is the first Black chef in New York City, and the second in the US, to run a Michelin-starred restaurant. Mitchell has said his passion for food was inspired by his grandmother's cooking during his childhood in Detroit, Michigan. The menu at Clover Hill, which opened in 2022, includes an eight-course meal and changes regularly depending on what fruits and vegetables are in season.

OVERHEARD

"Our favorite thing to do was to get together for dinner and then put on some karaoke and sing."

NASA astronaut Christina Koch on how her crew spent their free time while living at the International Space Station. After 328 days there, Koch set the record for the longest single spaceflight by a woman.

COURTESY OF MARK KISTLER (2); GETTY IMAGES; CLAY WILLIAMS; ROBERT MARKOWITZ/NASA-JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

A tiger shark in the Bahamas

Bringing sharks back

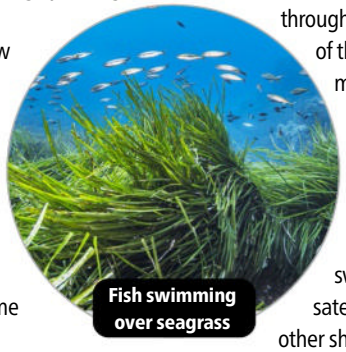
A new organization called ReShark is raising zebra sharks in captivity. It plans to release 500 of them into the wild in Indonesia to try to save the species from extinction. This is the first program of its kind for sharks. If it works, ReShark hopes to use the same method with other shark species.

A zebra shark

Sharks solve an ocean mystery

Seagrass, an underwater plant that grows in meadows on the ocean floor, is an essential source of shelter, food, and oxygen for marine life. It also helps prevent global warming by storing carbon, a harmful gas. However, scientists don't know exactly how much seagrass is at the bottom of the ocean. With the help of tiger sharks, an international team of researchers has discovered the world's largest seagrass meadow on the seafloor near the Bahamas.

Seagrass meadows are home to many different types of fish, mollusks, and crustaceans. Large predators, such as sharks, also spend a lot of time there looking for prey. Seagrasses can grow in very deep and murky waters, making them difficult to find. But sharks can dive deep into the water and explore areas people cannot reach.


Fish swimming over seagrass

After noticing tiger sharks swimming through lots of seagrass off the coast of the Bahamas, an American marine scientist worked with a seagrass expert from Saudi Arabia to map the locations of the plants. The researchers fitted seven tiger sharks with cameras. Since tiger sharks swim in packs, they placed satellite tracking tags on eight other sharks to confirm exactly where the animals swam. They collected hours of videos of the tiger sharks swimming through at least 25,000 square miles of seagrass.

The researchers found more of the plants growing near the Bahamas than they expected—in fact, they concluded there is more seagrass there than anywhere else on Earth. The new finding increased the amount of seagrass known to exist by 41%. More research is needed to discover the true size of the seagrass meadow, which may span up to 36,000 square miles.

Scientists often rely on observations from divers and boats to study underwater habitats, but this team found that working with animals improved their understanding. They are now placing cameras on sea turtles to map seagrass in the Red Sea. Conservationists say it's important to find ways to protect these ocean plants. "We're really just beginning to realize how important seagrasses are," said Benjamin Jones, co-founder of the conservation group Project Seagrass.

PLACE OF THE WEEK

Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve, Idaho

Named for its dramatic landscape that resembles the Moon's surface, this national park was an active lava field 2,000 years ago. Astronauts from the Apollo 14 mission visited the park to study volcanic formations before their journey to the Moon. A loop road takes visitors through some of these formations, including cinder cones and spatter cones. The park also has more than 500 caves, with more being discovered each year. As the lava began to cool, animals started living here. Today, these include species such as yellow-pine chipmunks and lava tube beetles.

A yellow-pine chipmunk

DID YOU KNOW?
The Millennium Seed Bank has been estimated to be the size of 30 double-decker buses.

A view of the seed bank from the air

A living library of global plants

The world's largest seed bank, at the Wakehurst wild botanic garden in the UK, has announced that it now holds more than 40,000 wild plant species.

Researchers from London, England, created the Millennium Seed Bank (MSB) more than 20 years ago to preserve rare, threatened, and important wild plants. Nicknamed "the Noah's Ark for plants," its underground vaults store about 2.4 billion individual seeds from 190 countries.

Any seeds that arrive at MSB are dried, cleaned, x-rayed for signs of pests, and then stored at -4º F. They can survive for hundreds of years like this, but scientists remove the seeds every 10 years to see if they can still grow into plants.

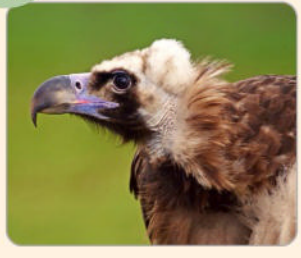
The MSB ensures that if a plant becomes extinct (stops existing) in the wild, it can be regrown from its seeds. Scientists estimate that 40% of all wild plants are threatened with extinction. Seeds in the vaults include the world's smallest water lily, a rare Australian pea, and Antarctic hair grass, one of only two flowering plants that grow in Antarctica.

Animal of the week: Asiatic lion

There are about 500 Asiatic lions left in the world, and they all live in the Indian state of Gujarat. Efforts to save the species have been so successful that experts say there is now overcrowding, so a new sanctuary is opening.

- **LIFE SPAN:** 16 to 18 years
- **HABITAT:** Forests, grasslands, and deserts
- **SIZE:** Up to 500 pounds and 9.5 feet long
- **DIET:** Animals, from small rodents to deer
- **FUN FACT:** Asiatic lions have shaggier coats and shorter manes than African lions.

Good week / Bad week



Black vultures

Europe's biggest bird of prey, also called the monk vulture, has returned to Bulgaria after 36 years of being considered extinct in the country. About 72 vultures were recently released in the wild as part of a reintroduction effort.

Monarch butterflies

The number of monarch butterflies migrating from the US and Canada to central Mexico for the winter dropped by 22% this past season. Extreme temperatures and loss of trees may have caused the decline, experts say.

Ask an expert: "How old can a cobra get?"

Miles, 8, Illinois

Scott Johnson
Animal Care Professional, Ectotherms, Naples Zoo

A king cobra

Although cobras are one of the most feared venomous snakes, survival isn't easy for them in the wild. Some wild cobras can live about 20 years, but unfortunately, most don't make it to their first "hatch day," due in large part to predation. At zoos, we are seeing them live 15 to 20 years.

Do you have a question for a zookeeper? Send it to *hello@theweekjunior.com*. Find out more about Naples Zoo at napleszoo.org.

VISUAL: AIR/RBG/KEW; GETTY IMAGES (4); ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (4); ALAMY

A celebratory day of

Millions of Mexican Americans mark a special day each year.

For decades in the US, Cinco de Mayo has been celebrated with parades and festivals honoring Mexican heritage. The day started with an important event in Mexico's history.

What is Cinco de Mayo?

The Spanish words *Cinco de Mayo* translate to May 5 in English. While the holiday is relatively small in Mexico, it has grown throughout the US to become a major occasion celebrating the heritage of more than 37 million people of Mexican descent who live in this country. People sometimes confuse Cinco de Mayo with Mexican Independence Day, which is a separate holiday on September 16 that celebrates Mexico's independence from Spain.

A statue of Ignacio Zaragoza

It began with a battle

Mexico declared independence from Spanish rule in 1821. Forty years later, in 1861, France invaded Mexico with support from Spain and the United Kingdom. By April 1862, only France was still fighting to bring Mexico under French rule. On May 5, 1862, at the Battle of Puebla, southeast of Mexico City, Mexican General Ignacio Zaragoza led 2,000 troops against a French army of 6,000 troops. In a surprise victory, the Mexican troops won. Although France did not withdraw from Mexico until 1867, the victory symbolized Mexican resistance. Every May 5 in Puebla today, there are parades, speeches, and battle reenactments to mark the anniversary of the victory.

DID YOU KNOW?
The US–Mexico border is 1,954 miles long, stretching from the Pacific Ocean to Texas.

PRICKLY POSITION
During the Battle of Puebla, Mexican soldiers hid from the French behind cactus plants.

Festive foods

On Cinco de Mayo, traditional Mexican dishes are enjoyed in Puebla, Mexico, and at celebrations around the US. Here are three popular foods.

Mole poblano

The most famous dish of Cinco de Mayo is mole poblano, which originated in Puebla. Mole is a sauce made from up to 40 ingredients, like chilies, dried poblano peppers, and chocolate. It's both sweet and spicy. This thick, dark sauce is served on chicken, stuffed peppers, and other foods.

ALAMY (2); GETTY IMAGES (5); LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS

culture and heritage

ENJOYING THE DAY
Although it's not a federal holiday, schools are closed on Cinco de Mayo in Mexico.

A Cinco de Mayo parade in New York City

Celebrating in Los Angeles in 1952

A holiday in the US

Cinco de Mayo has been celebrated in the US since 1863, the first anniversary of the Battle of Puebla. The earliest celebrations took place among Mexican immigrants in states bordering Mexico. Between 1910 and 1930, Mexican immigration to the US grew significantly and the popularity of Cinco de Mayo spread. After facing decades of discrimination (unfair treatment of a person or group), Mexican Americans began a civil rights movement in the 1960s. As part of their fight for equality, activists promoted Cinco de Mayo and pride in Mexican heritage. In 2005, Congress passed a resolution recognizing the historical significance of Cinco de Mayo.

Young dancers on May 5

Festivities across the nation

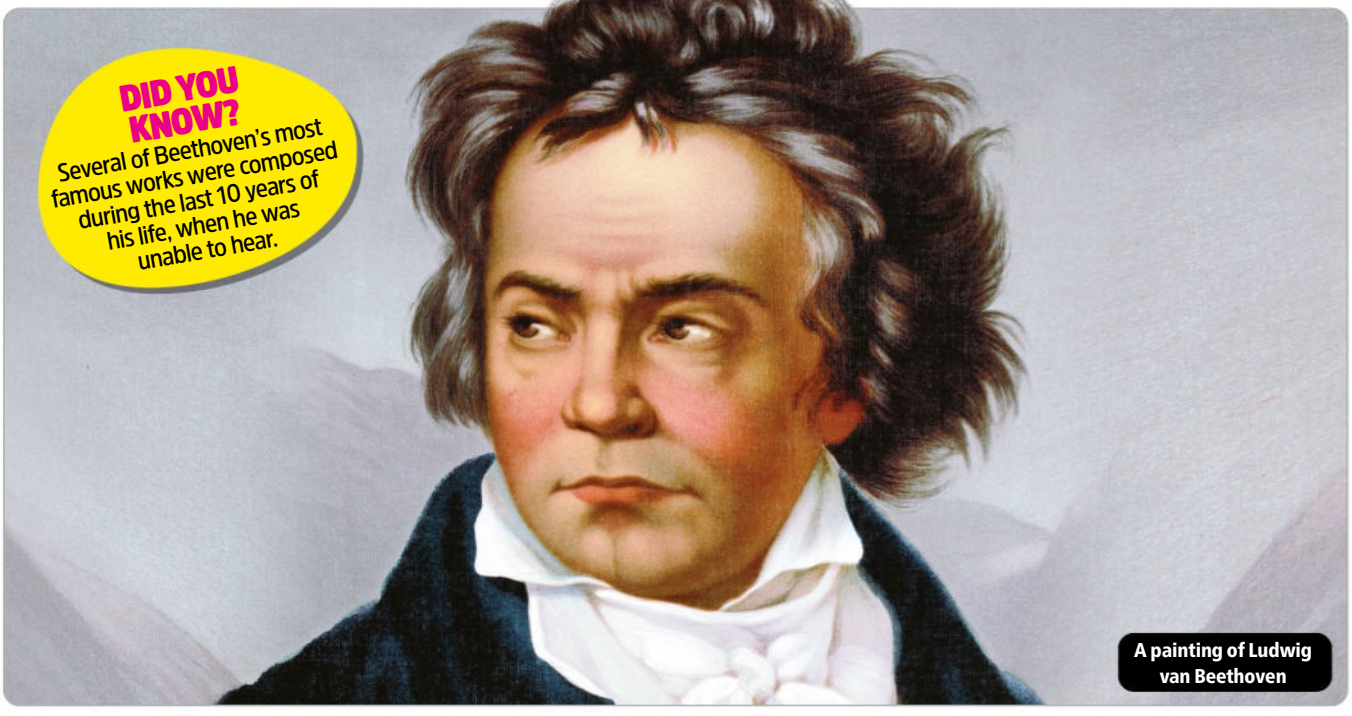
Today, major Cinco de Mayo celebrations take place in cities throughout America. The largest is held in Los Angeles, California, and features mariachi (a type of folk music native to Mexico) and dancing at the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument downtown. At the El Carnaval de Puebla celebration each year in South Philadelphia, people dress in clothing representing the Battle of Puebla and enjoy traditional Mexican foods. On Cinco de Mayo in 2022, President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden held a reception in the Rose Garden at the White House in Washington, DC. The first lady of Mexico, Beatriz Gutiérrez Müller, attended.

Chalupas

This popular Mexican street food is made of thick fried tortillas, which are topped with salsa, shredded meat, chopped onions, and queso fresco. Chalupas can be folded over and held in your hand, making them a perfect treat to enjoy during Cinco de Mayo festivities.

Chiles en nogada

This dish was created in the early 1800s for Mexico's first emperor. The colors of the Mexican flag—green, white, and red—are represented on the plate. A pepper is stuffed with ground meat, tomatoes, and raisins, then fried. It's topped with walnut sauce, pomegranate seeds, and parsley.



DID YOU KNOW?
Several of Beethoven's most famous works were composed during the last 10 years of his life, when he was unable to hear.

A painting of Ludwig van Beethoven

Beethoven's hair unlocks health secrets

Nearly 200 years after the legendary composer Ludwig van Beethoven died, scientists have collected his DNA from samples of his hair. This DNA (the chemical that carries all the information about a living thing's body and characteristics) has provided more information about the health problems he experienced in his lifetime.

Beethoven, who was born in Germany, died in 1827 at age 56, likely because of problems with his liver. His other health issues included chronic stomach problems and hearing loss, which began in his 20s. He was almost completely unable to hear later in life.

An authentic lock of Beethoven's hair

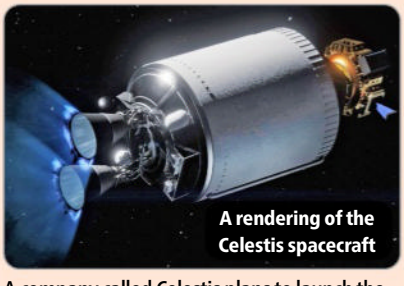
When Beethoven died, many people took locks of his hair as a keepsake, which was a common practice at the time. A team of researchers recently gathered eight hair samples that were said to be Beethoven's from private collections and museums. The team included Tristan Begg, who was then a master's student at the University of Tübingen in Germany, and William Meredith, a Beethoven scholar.

First, the scientists had to confirm that the hair samples actually belonged to the composer. Of the eight samples, five had identical DNA, meaning they came from the same individual. Since two of those five had uninterrupted records of ownership dating back to the 1820s, the researchers were confident that all five of them were Beethoven's. They concluded that two of the samples, one of which had previously been used in research claiming that the composer had died of lead poisoning, did not belong to him. The eighth lock did not produce enough DNA to study.

The researchers could not identify the cause of Beethoven's hearing loss or an explanation for his stomach problems in his DNA. However, they did find a variant of a gene (a short section of DNA) that is linked to an increased risk of liver problems. They also discovered that he was infected with hepatitis B, a virus that damages the liver.

The team will continue searching for authentic locks of Beethoven's hair. They will also make the DNA they captured available to the public, with the hope that "remaining questions about his health and genealogy can someday be answered," said Begg.

Sending DNA into space



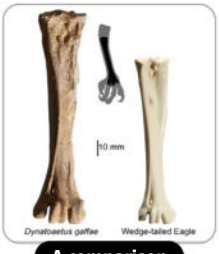
A rendering of the Celestis spacecraft

A company called Celestis plans to launch the DNA of four US Presidents who have died—George Washington, Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, and Ronald Reagan—into space later this year. The DNA comes from samples of the Presidents' hair, which the company said were donated by someone who did not want to be identified and came with certificates of authenticity.

The mission, named Enterprise Flight, will mark "the first time in history that any President has gone to space in any fashion, symbolically or otherwise," Celestis said. Also aboard the flight will be the DNA of four people involved in the original *Star Trek* TV show: creator Gene Roddenberry and actors Nichelle Nichols, DeForest Kelley, and James Doohan.

Giant eagle once soared above Australia

Scientists recently identified an extinct species of eagle that was the largest to have ever lived in Australia. Named the Dynatoaetus gaffae, or the Gaff's powerful eagle, it had a nearly 10-foot wingspan and foot-long talons. It was about twice the size of the wedge-tailed eagle, the largest bird of prey currently living in Australia, and was the third-largest eagle known to exist in the world.



A comparison of eagle bones

Fossils (impressions or traces of ancient plants and animals preserved in rocks) of the eagle were discovered in 1959 in Mairs Cave, in a mountain region in the state of South Australia. These included a claw and part of a wing bone. In 2021, a team of researchers found a partial skeleton in the cave, including a skull and leg and wing bones. These additional fossils enabled them to name the species.

The Gaff's powerful eagle lived during the Pleistocene Epoch, about 700,000 to 50,000 years ago. It appears to have been common throughout southern Australia, as the researchers have identified other fossils of the species in the region. It is not closely related to modern-day Australian eagles.

This giant eagle would have lived in Australia at the same time other large animal species, such as the giant kangaroo, lived there. It was most likely a top predator and may have fed on young giant kangaroos as well as koalas and possums. The bird may have died out after its prey went extinct.

A drawing of a Gaff's powerful eagle and its prey

It took six tries to 3D-print this piece of cake.

Scientists 3D-print a slice of cake

Engineers at Columbia University in New York City 3D-printed a slice of cake with seven ingredients: graham crackers, peanut butter, strawberry jam, Nutella, bananas, cherry sauce, and frosting.

First, the team turned the solid ingredients into a paste that could be used for printing. They smashed bananas and pureed graham crackers with water and butter. Then they printed thin rows of each ingredient to build the cake in layers.

It took six tries and about 30 minutes to print the cake. Early versions kept collapsing, so the researchers added graham cracker paste throughout the piece to give it more structure. The final dessert was about 70% graham cracker paste. For the last step, they browned the top of the cake with a laser.

The team said the 3D-printed sample shows that edible pastes and powders could one day be turned into convenient and nutritious foods.

AMAZING INVENTION

Sweaters made from oyster shells

A SeaWell sweater

A Massachusetts company says it is "turning waste into wool." Long Wharf Supply Co. makes sweaters from a soft yarn consisting of oyster shells, recycled water bottles, and wool and cotton.

Each sweater in the SeaWell collection uses four to five oyster shells and eight recycled water bottles that would otherwise end up in landfills. Oyster shells can become poisonous over time, and plastic bottles take hundreds of years to break down. The company hopes the sweaters will reduce waste and clean up the seas for the future.

GETTY IMAGES; AMERICAN BEETHOVEN SOCIETY; MEMBER KEVIN BROWN/CURRENT BIOLOGY; CELESTIS; ON LEFT PAGE: @JOSCHUAKNUPPE/TWITTER; ELLEN MATHER; JONATHAN BLUTINGER/COLUMBIA ENGINEERING; THE SEAWELL COLLECTION

Photos of the week

ANNUAL SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE PHOTO CONTEST FINALISTS

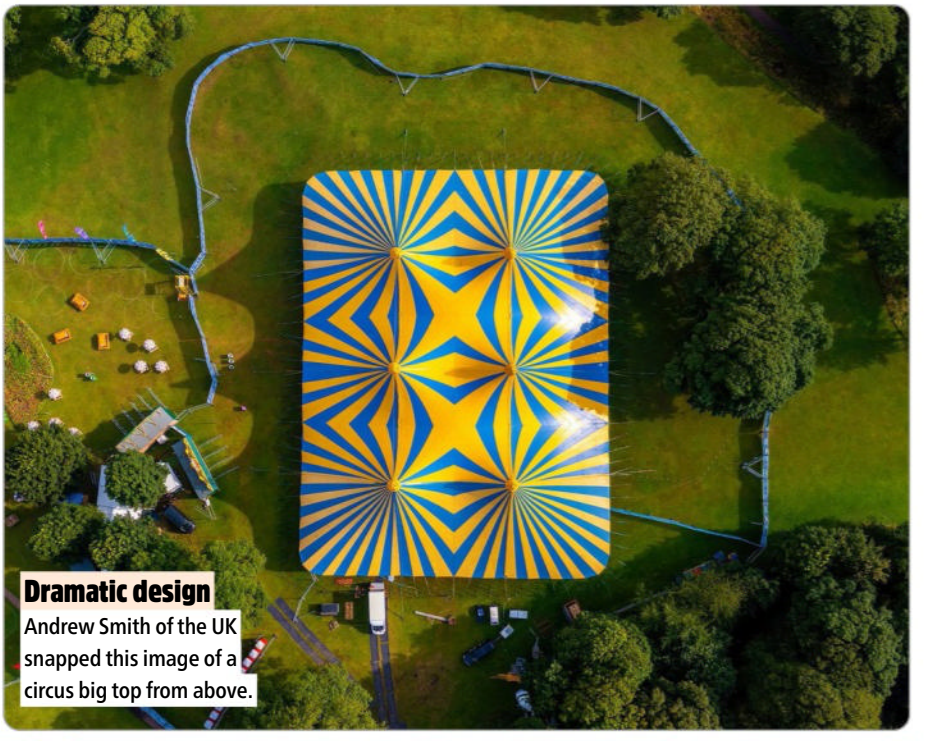
All in a row
Houses are perfectly lined up in a photo by Florian Kriechbaumer of Dubai.

Keep pushing
Aleksandr Chekhonin of Russia took this overhead shot of an ice-breaking boat.

YUEPENG BAO; ANDREW SMITH; DEB LEAL; ALEKSANDR CHEKHONIN; PEDRO LUIS AJURIAGUERRA; FLORIAN KRIECHBAUMER

Photos of the week

Bugging out
Pedro Luis Ajuriaguerra of Spain shot a colorful close-up of a gypsy moth.



Dramatic design
Andrew Smith of the UK snapped this image of a circus big top from above.

Ice and fire
This picture of a dormant volcanic crater was taken by Yuepeng Bao of China.

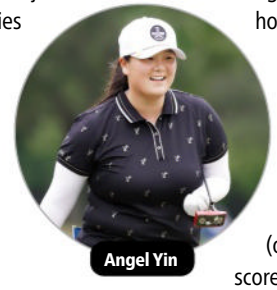
Double dinos
Deb Leal of the US photographed two roadside sculptures.

The tournament trophy

The Chevron Championship winner receives the Dinah Shore Trophy. It is named in honor of Shore, who died in 1994 and was a television, film, and recording star, as well as a women's golf advocate. The silver trophy is 18 inches high and weighs about 25 pounds.

American wins LPGA major

From April 20–23, the Chevron Championship was played at The Club at Carlton Woods near Houston, Texas. It is one of the five major tournaments each year on the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) tour. The event had been played at the Mission Hills Country Club in Rancho Mirage, California, for the past 51 years. It used to be known as "The Dinah" because of its longtime celebrity host Dinah Shore.


Angel Yin

This year's winner was Lilia Vu of the US. She mounted a major comeback on the final day, which ended with a sudden-death playoff. It was the first major title of her career.

The field of 132 golfers at the tournament included the top 10 women in the world. The thrilling battle for the championship title, however, came down to Vu, who was ranked 12th coming into the event, and Angel Yin, who is also American and was ranked 172nd.

Vu began the final round four strokes out of first place, but she played strong, got birdies (one stroke under the expected score) on five holes, and finished 10 strokes under par (the expected score).

Yin had been leading the field for most of the final round, but she had back-to-back bogeys (two strokes over par) on the 16th and 17th holes, which put her at 9 under par with one hole to play. She managed to birdie the 18th hole, which brought her score to 10 under par and placed her in a tie with Vu. As a result, there had to be a playoff between the two competitors.

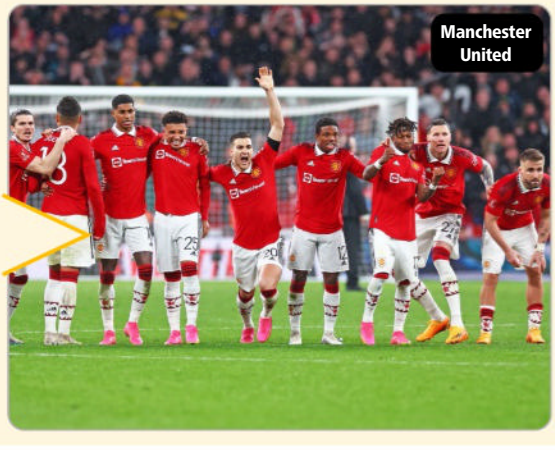
In the playoff, the golfer who gets the lower score on a hole first wins. On their first hole, Yin hit one of her shots into a pond, which gave Vu an advantage. Vu played the hole well and sank a 14-foot putt to secure the win. Moments later, she carried on The Dinah's tradition of the winner jumping into a pond on the course. She won $765,000, which is the most she has ever earned in a tournament.

Nelly Korda, an American who is ranked number two in the world, finished in third place.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

CLUB SOCCER

On April 22, Manchester City defeated Sheffield United, 3–0, in the semifinal of the FA Cup, a months-long tournament for clubs in the English Football League. Riyad Mahrez scored all three goals for Manchester City. In the other semifinal the next day, City's biggest rival, Manchester United, beat Brighton on penalties. It sets up the first-ever match between the two clubs in an FA Cup final, which will be June 3.


Manchester United

SWIMMING

At the open water national championships from April 21–23, American Katie Grimes, age 17, won the women's 10-kilometer and women's 5-kilometer events.

WEIGHTLIFTING

On April 23, Mitchell Hooper of Canada won the 2023 World's Strongest Man competition in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. He finished in first place in four out of six events, including a bus pull. He is the first Canadian to win.

FUN FACT The oldest NBA player of all time was Nat Hickey, who played at age 45 in 1948.

Dink Pate at his press conference

Teen basketball star goes pro

On April 17, Dink Pate, age 17, became the youngest known US-born professional basketball player. Pate, who is from Dallas, Texas, joined the National Basketball Association (NBA) G League Ignite, a development program that coaches and trains prospects who hope to play in the NBA. He decided to join the league instead of playing college basketball.

Pate, who was a high school junior, was the second-ranked player in Texas this year and one of the top players in the US. He is 6 feet, 8 inches tall. He was expected to graduate from high school in 2024, but he completed his coursework for his junior and senior years so he can graduate this June and begin focusing solely on basketball. "The whole idea of why I started playing basketball was to be a pro," he said at a press conference.

At L.G. Pinkston High School, Pate primarily played point guard, which is unusual for someone his height. Not only do his size and strong dribbling abilities give him an advantage over other players, but he is also a great shooter. "I'm going to keep working to the best of my ability to prove that I can play in the NBA," he said.

Pate's next goal is to enter the NBA draft. In the annual draft, players from college teams, international programs, and Ignite are selected by NBA teams to join their rosters. To enter, a player must be at least age 19 during the calendar year the draft is held and at least one year out of high school. Pate will not turn 19 until March 2025, so he will spend two years with Ignite before entering the 2025 NBA draft. He plans to take online college courses while he is in training.

COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: **Truman Word**

Team: **Barracudas (swimming)**

"Coach Truman always motivates the team to swim our best. At my very first swim meet, which happened this year, he helped me overcome my fear of competing. He is at every swim meet to help the team achieve their goals. Coach Truman is also a great coach because he makes every member of the team feel like they belong. He also cheers us up if we do not meet our goals and tells us, 'You will get them next time.' " Margaret, 10, Texas

To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to *hello@theweekjunior.com.* Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Lauren Keller

AGE: 20 SPORT: VOLLEYBALL
TEAM: MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Longtime tradition My extended family has been playing volleyball each Sunday on the banks of the Rio Grande River in my hometown of Albuquerque, New Mexico, for more than 50 years. However, I didn't start playing competitively until I joined my school's team in eighth grade. I love how fast-paced the sport is, particularly at the collegiate level.

Practice routine In season, we have four 2.5-hour practices per week, plus team lifts. We do a variety of drills to hone our serving, passing, setting, hitting, and blocking skills. Typically, we break into our positional groups for the first half of practice, then come together as a team and run our offense.

Playing perk My favorite thing about volleyball is competing. There is no better feeling than stepping on the court with your best friends, ready to battle. The rush of adrenaline you feel entering a game is unlike any other.

Getting set I know my teammates, coaches, family, and friends all have my back, so as long as I give my full effort, I will be proud of the outcome. Not every game is going to go your way, but you can learn a lot from analyzing your performance.

Future goals Our team has made the Elite 8 in the NCAA Division III tournament for two consecutive years, and we have our eyes set on a national championship.

Her advice Sports are an incredible way to step out of your comfort zone and make new friends, so try different things as you explore your interests.

WFAA/SCREENSHOT; MIT ATHLETICS; GETTY IMAGES; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (4)

A troll named Ronja Redeye in *Trolls: Save the Humans*

Giant trolls on display

Six wooden figures made by artist Thomas Dambo are being exhibited at the Atlanta Botanical Garden.

The Atlanta Botanical Garden in Georgia is hosting the world premiere of the exhibition *Trolls: Save the Humans* by Danish artist Thomas Dambo. It is a story about six giant trolls who have noticed humans are harming the planet and want to help them connect to it. The trolls will be on display until September 17.

Dambo's trolls are made of reclaimed wood. About 14 years ago, he decided to use only recycled materials in his art. He sees his work as part of a cycle: People cut down forests to make things that get thrown away, then he uses that trash to make art that tells stories about protecting nature. Atlanta Botanical Garden spokesperson Danny Flanders told *The Week Junior* that Dambo's work is "a natural fit for the garden, where our mission is all about saving the planet through sustainability."

Thomas Dambo

Dambo worked with a team of 21 people to design and construct the trolls in Denmark. The figures, which are 16 to 50 feet tall, were then taken apart and shipped to Atlanta, where Dambo's team spent about a week reassembling them. They can be found in the garden's woodland area.

In addition to sending an environmental message, Dambo hopes his work shows people they can create art with all kinds of materials. "I want to remind people that they can experiment and build the world in new ways," he has said.

More than 100 of Dambo's trolls exist around the world. You can find out where at trollmap.com.

Other Thomas Dambo art

Happy City Birds

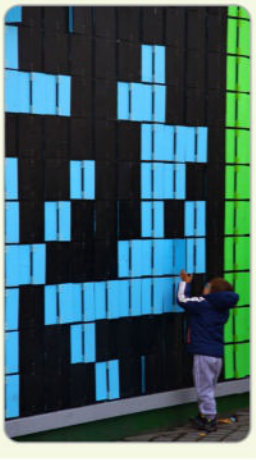
Dambo once worked as a street artist. Instead of making graffiti, he chose to put up birdhouses. He began the project in 2006, and there are now thousands around the world.

The Future Forest

In 2018, Dambo worked with a Mexico City team, which included trash collectors and their children, to build a colorful forest out of 6,000 pounds of plastic waste. It featured flowers, animals, trees, and plants.

Happy Wall

Versions of this pixel art have been displayed in several countries. It has wood blocks that are black on one side and a color on the other. People turn them to create their own images.



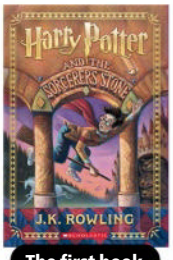
TOP PICK
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone is the best-selling book in the Harry Potter series.

The original *Harry Potter* cast

Harry Potter TV series in the works

Over the years, the Harry Potter book series by J.K. Rowling has been adapted into eight hit movies and inspired a spin-off film franchise and a Broadway show. Now fans can look forward to a new live-action TV series based on the original seven books. The entertainment company Warner Bros. Discovery recently announced it will be making the show for its streaming service, Max (formerly known as HBO Max).

The book series is an epic saga about a young orphan, Harry, who discovers he is a wizard. He heads to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, where he and his best friends perfect their magic skills and battle evil.



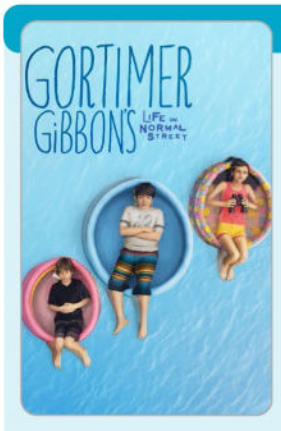
The first book

The show will be released over 10 years, and each season will follow one of the core Harry Potter books. Rowling will serve as executive producer on the series. In a press release, she expressed excitement and said the new adaptation "will allow for a degree of depth and detail only afforded by a long-form television series."

The series will feature a different cast than the films, and the company hopes it will attract new fans to the franchise. However, David Zaslav, the head of Warner Bros. Discovery, said it will be true to the books and "produced with the same craft, love, and care this global franchise is known for."

Reaction to the news about the series was mixed. Some people said that no one asked for a TV remake and nothing could be better than the movies. Others would prefer to see projects based on new ideas rather than old ones. Still, some fans think a TV series should have been made sooner, and they are hopeful that it will include characters and other details that were not part of the films.

READER RECOMMENDS

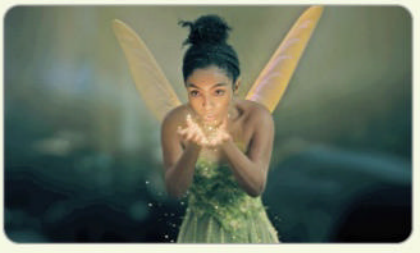


Gortimer Gibbon's Life on Normal Street *(Prime Video)*
"This series is about a boy named Gortimer Gibbon, who lives in the suburbs with his best friends, a girl named Mel and a boy named Ranger. Each episode has a new story about their lives. The show features good themes, such as friendship and honesty. There are three seasons of the series, and it follows the characters through middle school. Some episodes contain magical elements, while others deal with issues about normal life. What I like most about the show is that the characters are relatable." Cleo, 12, Arizona

Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST

Chimp Empire
(Netflix)
From the co-director of the acclaimed 2020 documentary *My Octopus Teacher* comes this new four-part documentary about the Ngogo chimpanzee community in Uganda. It visits their forest habitat and reveals how the group's power structures and family dynamics work.



Peter Pan and Wendy
(Disney+)
The story from J.M. Barrie's 1904 novel *Peter Pan* has been reimagined into a new live-action film. Although there are some changes from the original story, it still follows a girl named Wendy and her younger brothers on a thrilling journey to Neverland with Peter Pan.

Frog and Toad
(Apple TV+)
This new animated series is an adaptation of the beloved children's books of the same name. Frog, who loves adventure, is best friends with Toad, who prefers being close to home. In each episode, they learn that embracing their differences makes their friendship stronger.

ALAMY; SCHOLASTIC; NETFLIX; DISNEY; APPLE TV+; AMAZON STUDIOS; ON LEFT PAGE: COURTESY OF THOMAS DAMBO/ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN (2); GUILLAUME BAVIERE; THOMAS DAMBO/COVER IMAGES VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS; VITA THOMSEN

DID YOU KNOW?
Modern wind-up toys date back to 15th-century Europe.

Tin Hearts

Guide an army of tin solders

Tin Hearts is a new puzzle adventure game. It was recently released for the Nintendo Switch and will be available on May 16 for PlayStation platforms, Xbox One, and PC. Last year it was named the Most Wanted Nintendo Switch Game at the Gamescom convention.

The game is set in late 1800s England, inside the magical home and workshop of Albert J. Butterworth, a genius inventor. He lives with his wife, Helen, a brilliant musician, and their daughter, Rose. Their story unfolds in the game's action and cut scenes, where you watch the family sticking together during hard times.

Play revolves around a small army of wind-up tin soldiers, a cheerful and fearless group of little heroes. In order for them to move around the Butterworth house, you build paths for them to follow. They can bounce off big balls, slide down shelves, fly on toy boats powered by balloons, and launch into the air off various household items. You'll also make use of toys such as tiny cannons and trampoline drums.

There are more than 40 levels in the game, and each one is filled with riddles and puzzles for the tin soldiers to solve and conquer. They get harder as the game moves through its three acts, but there are clues scattered throughout the home and workshop that will help you. As the game evolves, items shift from being kinetic (using energy of motion) to electric to steampunk (powered by steam).

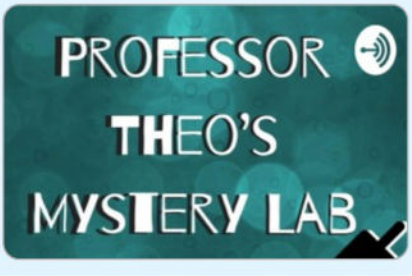
As you solve puzzles, you learn more about the characters' emotional story. There is a lesson in it about balancing a passion for creativity with being present for your family.

PODCAST OF THE WEEK

PROFESSOR THEO'S MYSTERY LAB

Apple Podcasts, Spotify

This show is based on a series of fictional short stories for kids that ran in a Kentucky newspaper. The episodes are narrated by Professor Theo, who tells tales about life in Splendid, West Virginia, a bizarre town that includes young superheroes, giant bugs, and teens that can time travel.



APP OF THE WEEK

DELETE AFTER READING

Apple App Store, Google Play, Steam

This app is part game and part storybook. In the exciting adventure, three spy kids try to recover the sole copy of a coveted video game that an evil millionaire has stolen. As they sneak through his mansion, you must complete tricky puzzles that will help the kids complete their mission.

CHANNEL OF THE WEEK

ART FOR KIDS HUB

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-KidsArt

This YouTube channel can help anyone learn how to draw or improve their skills. It is hosted by a dad named Rob, who often works side by side with one of his kids. His videos show easy ways to make Minecraft characters, intricate flowers, colorful dragons and unicorns, and more.

WIRED PRODUCTIONS (2); JONATHAN JOY; PATRONES & ESCONDITES; ART FOR KIDS HUB VIA YOUTUBE

BOOK OF THE WEEK

Legends of Lotus Island: The Guardian Test

By Christina Soontornvat, illustrated by Kevin Hong

(Scholastic Press)

Plum's acceptance into the Guardian Academy sets her off on a fantastical adventure where she can hone her ability to communicate with plants and animals. A boat takes Plum and other accepted students to Lotus Island. There, they'll train to become Guardians, magical creatures with healing powers. Classes in breathing and meditation help students learn how to transform into an animal. A little homesick, Plum has trouble concentrating in class. But she excels at caring for a baby goat. To remain on the island, she must pass a test showing she can transform into an animal. So far she hasn't been able to do it. Will she get the hang of it? If so, which animal will she be? This book, the first in a new fantasy series, is fewer than 150 pages.

WIN A BOOK!

We're giving away five copies of *The Guardian Test*.

For a chance to win, send your name and address to *contests@theweekjunior.com* with Guardian in the subject line. Enter by midnight on May 19. See theweekjunior.com/terms for complete rules.

ASK THE AUTHOR

Christina Soontornvat

We spoke to the author of the Book of the Week.

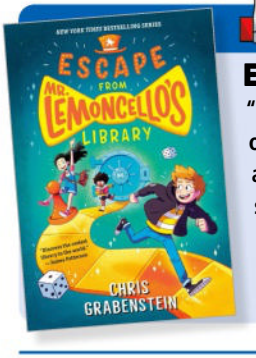
If you were at Guardian Academy, what creature would you try to be?
Something that flies or swims. Not a giant land snail, which is what no one in the book wants to be!

Is Plum based on anyone?
Plum is a bit like me. She's very close to her grandparents, and I was very close to mine. She lives on a tiny island with only her grandparents. While growing up, I sometimes felt isolated the way she does.

Do you meditate?
Yes. I'm not great at it, but I enjoy it. It does help me.

What is a big takeaway from this book?
I hope kids realize they have the power inside of themselves to solve their problems. That's true for all of us. Our challenge is to unlock what's already inside of us.

If you could live anywhere, where would it be?
I would live on Lotus Island!



READER RECOMMENDS

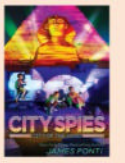
Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library *By Chris Grabenstein*

"Mr. Lemoncello has opened a library in Alexandriaville, Ohio. It is no ordinary library. It has holograms, escape games, breakout games, and much more. A boy named Kyle and a few other kids from his school have been invited to the new library. Without realizing it, they end up locked inside the library and they must find a way out. Can Kyle and the others escape the library?" Anika, 13, Maryland

Do you have a book to recommend? Send your review to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

4 popular series that have new books out

Find out what your favorite characters are up to in these exciting stories.



City Spies: City of the Dead

By James Ponti

(Aladdin)

The fourth book in the series takes the team of young spies to Egypt and the ancient City of the Dead. They are there to investigate a mystery surrounding artifacts. This book spotlights Kat, the team leader who can see patterns in numbers. *Ages 8–12*

Fall of the School for Good and Evil

By Soman Chainani

(HarperCollins)

Set in the same universe as The School for Good and Evil series, this book is the second of a duology (a pair of related novels) that take place before original stories begin. As the rivalry between twin brothers Rafal and Rhian increases, they kidnap someone from the outside world. *Ages 10 and up*

Katie the Catsitter: Secrets and Sidekicks

By Colleen AF Venable, illustrated by Stephanie Yue

(Random House Graphic)

Katie and hundreds of unusual cats are back for another fun adventure in the third book of this graphic novel series. Robots are attacking the city and there's drama among Katie's friends. The cats' antics are hilarious, and the drawings may make you laugh. *Ages 8–12*

Only Only Marisol Rainey

By Erin Entrada Kelly

(Greenwillow Books)

This is the third book in the Maybe Marisol series, and it may be the best one yet. Marisol is afraid of big dogs. When a neighbor's German Shepherd goes missing, she worries the dog could be running loose in the neighborhood. Will Marisol face her fears? Will the dog make it home? *Ages 8–12*

BOOKS: COURTESY OF PUBLISHERS; AUTHOR: SAM BOND; GETTY IMAGES

ALL ABOARD!
The largest model train set in the world is in Hamburg, Germany, and features more than six miles of tracks.

Try out model building

Make impressive and realistic creations with this fun hobby.

In model building, people build small, accurate versions of buildings, cars, ships, trains, and more. This is typically done by using a model kit that includes small wooden or plastic pieces, paint, and stickers. It's a hobby that has been around for decades, and there are new models to choose from every year. Here's how to get started.

Choose a kit

The first step to building a model is picking a kit. Consider selecting a model of something you like. Visit a hobby shop or look at specialty model building sites like modelerscentral.com. Some kits are very complicated, so look for one that's made for beginners or for kids. (Save the harder sets for after you have more experience.) The models will represent actual objects "to scale." For example, a car kit that's marked as a "1/24 model car" will be 1/24 the size of the real version of that car.

Start with a beginner kit.

Set up your workstation

Depending on the type of kit, it may include everything you need or you may have to round up some additional items. Before you start, read the instructions to find out whether you need any extra materials you might not have. The kit may call for paint, paintbrushes, and glue, for example. Next, find a good spot to build your model, such as on a table or desk where you can leave pieces out for a while in case you spend several days working on it. Lay down a crafting tablecloth or newspaper to protect the furniture.

Sort your parts

Model pieces are tiny and can be easy to lose. You may want to begin by opening up the pieces and sorting them into groups according to the steps in the instructions. You can keep them organized in a plastic fishing tackle box with divided compartments or in plastic bins with lids.

Get ready to start building

Building a model requires attention to detail, so you will need to carefully follow the directions. Reading through them before you begin can help you understand how the model will come together and help you avoid mistakes. Next, start assembling. If you run into obstacles, ask an adult for help.

Add finishing touches

Once you have completed building your model and letting any glue dry, it's time to add the finishing touches. Your kit may include instructions for how to paint it or add stickers, or it may leave that up to your own creativity. Once these details are finished, you can continue the project by creating a backdrop (like a picture of a sky or road) for your model. You can also choose a special shelf in your room where you can display it.

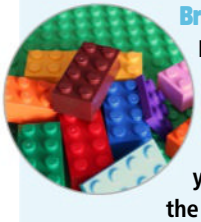
4 more building hobbies to explore

If you enjoy model building, you might also like one of these related hobbies.

Woodworking
In woodworking, as with model building, you can use a kit to make objects, like a shelf or birdhouse. Ask an adult for help if you're using any tools.

Robotics
This area of science and engineering involves building machines, such as robots. Many schools and communities offer robotics clubs.

Sculpture
One way to create a sculpture is to use your hands to shape items out of clay. Or challenge yourself to build a piece with items in your family's recycling bin or natural items found outside.

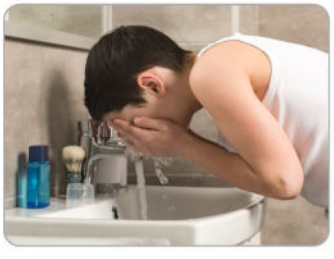


Brick building
If you already like building with Lego bricks, take your skills to the next level by sketching a design of something to build and following it. You can make adjustments to your creation as you go. Or try a set from the Lego Architecture series, which includes detailed versions of famous buildings around the world.

TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR SKIN

With the weather getting warmer, you're more likely to be exposed to the sun and to sweat. Both can cause issues for your skin. Here's what to do.

1. **Wash daily.** Cleanse your face each morning and evening, which can help prevent breakouts. To wash, wet your face with lukewarm water and use your fingertips to lightly rub a gentle cleanser onto your skin. Rinse, then pat skin dry with a towel.
2. **Wear sunscreen.** In the morning, before you leave the house, it's a good idea to apply sunscreen. This will protect your skin from a surprise sunburn. Use a sunscreen with a label that says it offers broad-spectrum protection. Remember to reapply throughout the day as directed.
3. **Cover up.** Don't forget the sensitive skin on your scalp. Whether it's sunny or overcast, it's smart to wear a hat, ideally with a brim. If you're wearing a baseball cap, be sure to apply sunscreen on your ears and the back of your neck.



FUN FACT
"Butter beans" are the same as lima beans, which got their nickname for their buttery taste.

WARNING!
Ask an adult's permission before using a knife or the stove.

Cook Greek-style tomato-braised beans

Ingredients

- 1 large yellow onion
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- One 14.5-ounce can fire-roasted diced tomatoes
- 1 cup water
- One 29-ounce can butter beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill, plus more for topping
- Pita bread, for serving

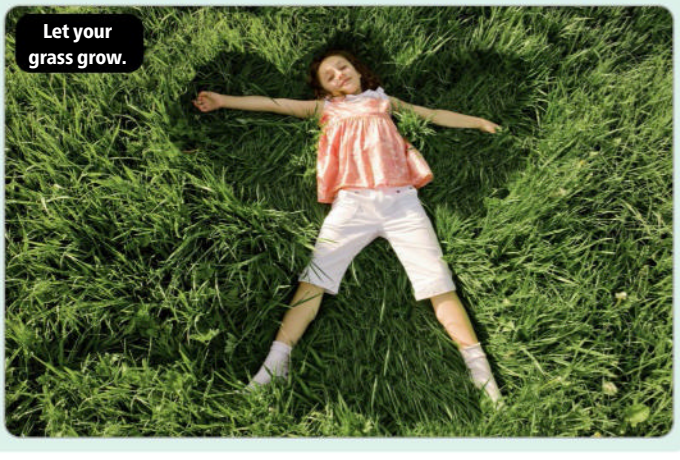
Instructions

1. Chop the onion into small pieces and grate the two garlic cloves.
2. Heat the olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high. Add the onion and cook, stirring occasionally, until just starting to soften, about 5 minutes.
3. Stir in the grated garlic, tomato paste, diced tomatoes, and water. Bring mixture to a simmer, then stir in the beans, oregano, and thyme.
4. Cover the pan and simmer for 10 minutes, then remove cover and cook, stirring occasionally, until much of the liquid cooks off, about 10 minutes more. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
5. Stir in the fresh dill and serve with pita bread. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

ECO TIP OF THE WEEK

MAKE YOUR YARD BEE-FRIENDLY

Bees are an important part of our ecosystem because they act as pollinators, spreading pollen from plant to plant, which allows food crops to grow. However, bees are under threat as their natural habitats get taken over for other uses, like building developments. One way you and your family can help the bees is by participating in "No Mow May," where you skip mowing the lawn for the month of May. This will let your grass grow longer and sprout weed flowers (like yellow dandelions), which bees can use as food. Talk to your family about participating in No Mow May, and consider spreading the word to friends, too.



ERICA CLARK FOR STONE KITCHEN CREATIVE; GETTY IMAGES (2); ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (5); ALAMY

Keyword crossword

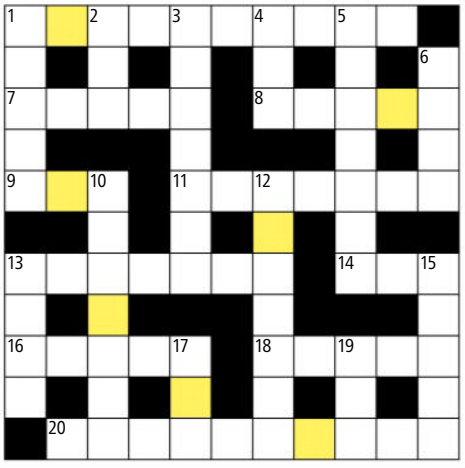
Once you have completed the crossword, transfer the letters in the yellow boxes, in order, into the boxes below to get the answer to the Keyword question.

ACROSS

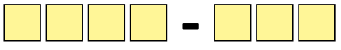
1 Satellite, rocket ship, or orbiter, for example
7 Posted restriction on a driver's speed
8 "It's a small ___" (Disney theme parks ride)
9 The part of a cereal box that tucks into a slot when closed
11 Eighth (and farthest) planet from our Sun
13 Strange-looking creature in a nightmare or scary movie
14 Instagram or Brainly, for example
16 Country that is famously shaped like a boot
18 Person whose job involves posing for fashion magazines
20 "Good health!" in German (said after someone sneezes)

DOWN

1 Banana ___ (ice cream treat)
2 Body part that the Statue of Liberty is raising
3 No longer in existence, like a dodo or a dinosaur
4 Uncooked
5 Sometimes secret mixture, such as for making Coca-Cola
6 Sharp rim
10 Wrap for a sprained ankle
12 Structure photographed by a visitor to Egypt
13 Hotel room straightener
15 Voice heard over a plane's intercom
17 Person who Uncle Sam points at in a famous poster
19 A deer (a female deer)

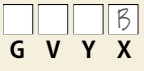


Keyword question: In 2006, a company created a cologne with the recognizable smell of what children's product?



CODE CRACKER

In this coded list of shellfish, every letter has been replaced with a substitute. The same substitutions are used throughout the list. Hint: The X here is an uncoded B. Use the letter patterns you find to crack the code. (NEED ANOTHER HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)


G V Y X

D A X T O L V

A H T O L V

T G Y D D A C

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

THREE FOR ALL

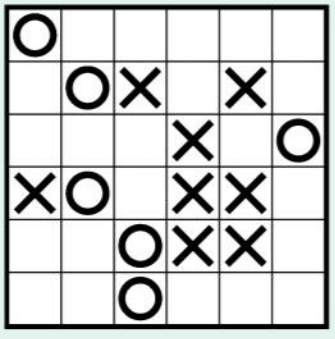
Sort this list into three familiar three-part phrases, like THREE-RING CIRCUS or SALT LAKE CITY.

BLAME TOO OFF ME WELL
SHAKE ALL DON'T IT

_____ _____ _____
_____ _____ _____
_____ _____ _____

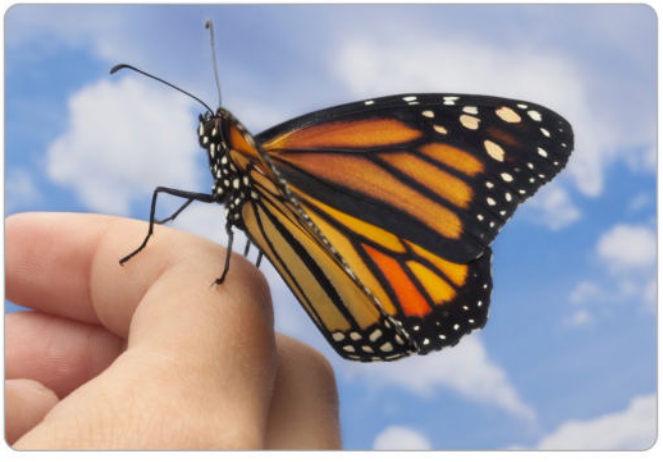
Hit or miss

Place an X or O in each empty square so there are never more than three X's or O's in a row across, down, or diagonally. Hint: If you find three in a row of one letter, you can put the other letter into the spaces at either end.



Spot the difference

These two pictures of a monarch butterfly appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?



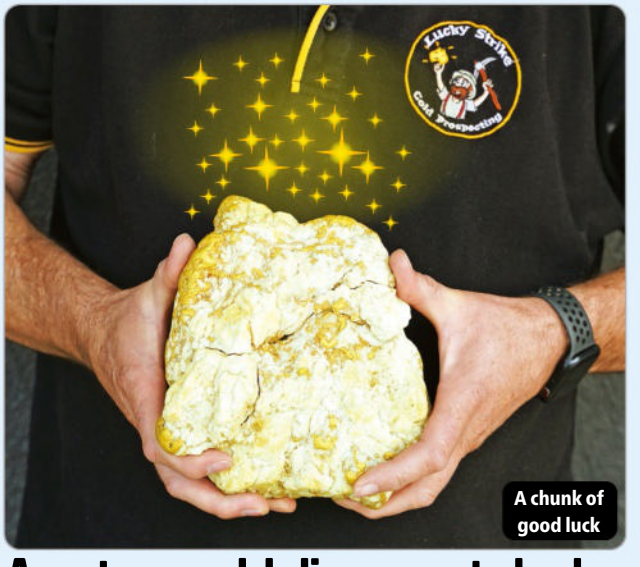
Code cracker hint: Every D is an uncoded L.

Shoes that go forward and back

A new type of sneaker that can be worn forward or backward has been released by the New York–based art group MSCHF (pronounced "mischief"). Worn forward, the BWD shoes look like ordinary sneakers with a big hole in the toe box. Worn backward, they resemble chunky sandals. The shoes went on sale on April 11 and have already sold out, despite their unusual design and a price tag of $135. Not everyone is impressed, though. "It's a shoe that doesn't even really work," fashion writer Adam Cheung said in *GQ* magazine.

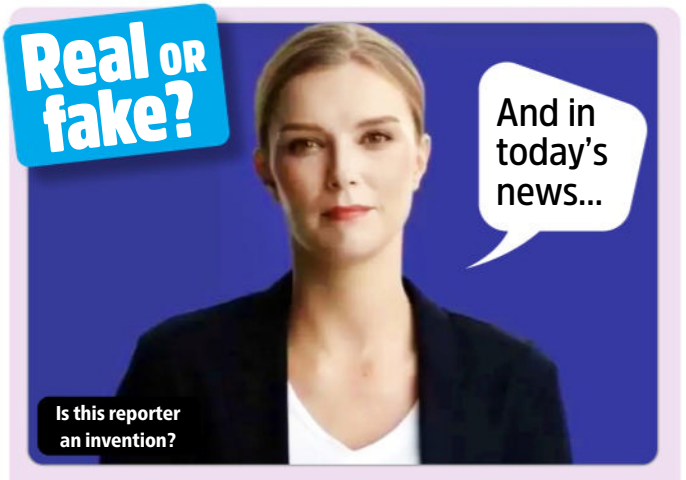
Weddings at a Wienermobile

According to a traditional saying, every wedding should include "something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue"—but how about a Wienermobile for two? On April 15 and 16, the hot dog–shaped vehicle was parked at a wedding chapel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Couples could get married in front of the "Wienermobile of Love" at a ceremony paid for by the Oscar Mayer meat company, complete with a wiener whistle quartet and a wiener cake ready to be cut by the newlyweds. The company said it was happy to provide a "stress-free" and "once-in-a-lifetime" wedding experience.



Amateur gold digger gets lucky

A metal detectorist has chanced upon a big chunk of gold in Victoria, Australia. The man, who doesn't want to be identified, was simply out enjoying his hobby with an inexpensive metal detector in Australia's "Golden Triangle" region when he found a lump of rock containing 5.2 pounds of gold. He took the rock to gold dealer Darren Kamp, who said it was the biggest gold nugget he has ever seen. "Our jaws hit the floor when we first saw it," said Kamp, who valued the "absolutely gobsmacking nugget" at about $160,000.



A brand-new way to break the news

Readers of Kuwait News may have been surprised to see a fresh face broadcasting the latest stories on the Arabic-language news outlet's Twitter account this week. More shockingly, the woman smiling on the screen was not a real person. Fedha, which is an old Kuwaiti name meaning "silver," is a virtual newscaster generated by artificial intelligence (AI, computer technology that allows a machine to imitate human intelligence). Fedha's creators say that eventually she might even read the news with a Kuwaiti accent. Is this story true, or is it purely artificial?*

*Real! Fedha is Kuwait's first AI newscaster. She was designed to present online news bulletins for the media outlet. "I'm Fedha," she said in her debut broadcast. "What kind of news do you prefer? Let's hear your opinions."

MSCHF BWD (2); COURTESY OSCAR MAYER; DARREN KAMP; LUCKY GOLD STRIKE; KUWAIT NEWS; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES

Editor's note

This week I was very excited to read about the coral reefs that have been discovered in the Galápagos Islands, off the coast of Ecuador (p3). The international team of scientists who made the finding said the reefs are in excellent condition and bursting with marine life. They weren't expected to be found due to the extensive damage that occurred in the 1980s, when unusually warm water on the surface of the Pacific Ocean caused most of the reefs in the area to die. The newly discovered reefs survived, however, and are thriving. "Galápagos surprises us again," said Jose Davalos, Ecuador's environment minister. One reason the reefs lived is because they are in a protected area, proving that conservation efforts are important. If you have an idea for helping the Earth, we'd love to hear it! You can find a form like the ones at right, along with instructions for sending it to us, at theweekjunior.com/activities.

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief

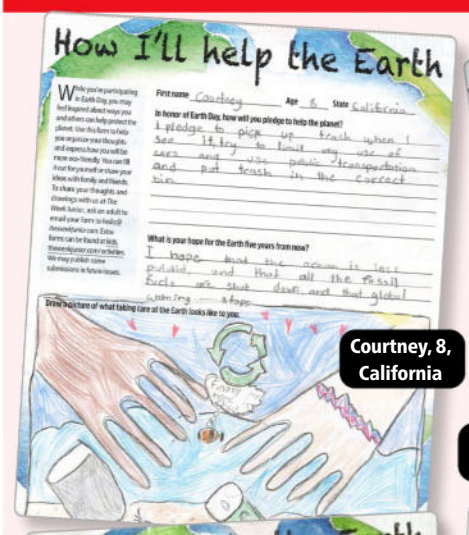
CHARITY OF THE WEEK

First Book

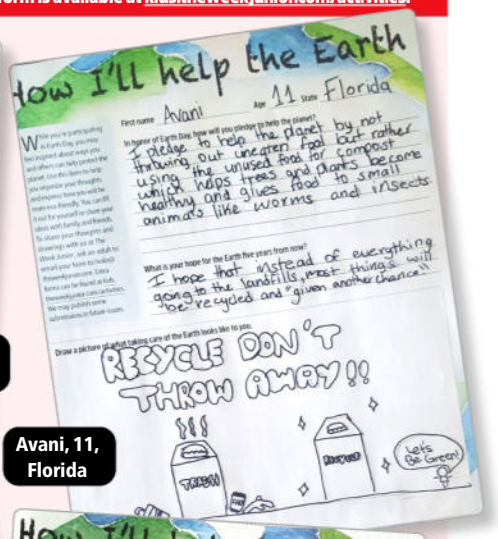
This organization's goal is to ensure that all children receive a quality education. It provides educators with access to low-cost or free books, conducts research to identify inequalities in the education system, and supports teachers with learning resources on topics such as life skills. It has provided more than 225 million books to schools and programs in the US and Canada since 1992. Find out more at firstbook.org.

EARTH HELPERS

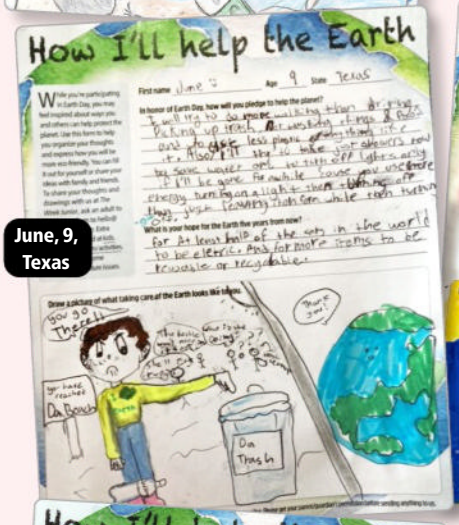
Thank you to everyone who has shared their ideas about protecting the Earth! The form is available at kids.theweekjunior.com/activities.



Courtney, 8, California

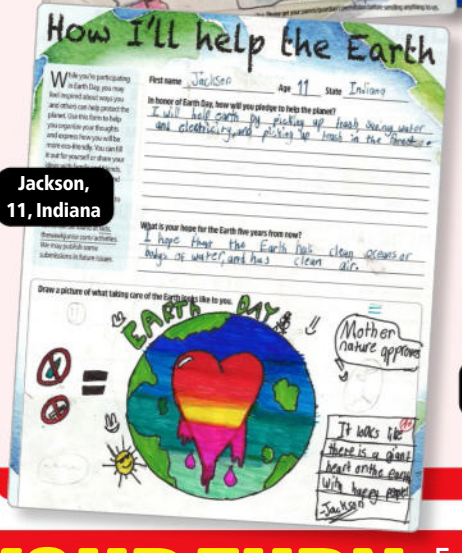


Avani, 11, Florida

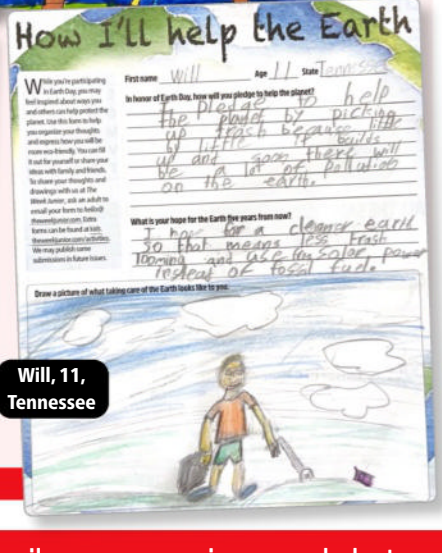


June, 9, Texas

Xavi, 8, Maryland



Jackson, 11, Indiana



Will, 11, Tennessee

THE WEEK Junior IT'S YOUR TURN Email your news, views, and photos to *hello@theweekjunior.com.*

YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures of you in them! Have an adult email them to us at *hello@theweekjunior.com*, along with anything you would like us to know about what you're doing in the photo.

"I love *The Week Junior* because it is a way for kids to know what's going on in the world. It's nice to have an original magazine that is on paper and not online. My sister and I like to read the magazine together." Nadia, 11, Florida

"I live in Hopkinton, Massachusetts, where the Boston Marathon starts! Every year, when the runners go past my house, I love cheering them on and giving them high fives." Avyan, 8, Massachusetts

"Making the creamy potato soup was so fun and delicious!" Eva, 8, Ohio

Teacher OF THE WEEK

Teacher's Name: **Mr. Coleman**

School: **Wentworth Elementary School**

"Mr. Coleman is the best teacher because he makes school fun but we still learn a lot. On the first day, he brought out his Rubik's Cube and showed us how to solve it. Later in the year, he got a grant to get us all Rubik's Cubes so we could learn algorithms and hand-eye coordination. Almost every day, he tells us funny, embarrassing stories about himself to make us laugh. Mr. Coleman is the best fifth grade teacher ever."

Quint, 10, Maine

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week!
Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

GETTY IMAGES; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES

Puzzle answers (from page 26)

S	P	A	C	E	C	R	A	F	T	
P		R		X		A		O		E
L	I	M	I	T		W	O	R	L	D
I				I				M		G
T	A	B		N	E	P	T	U	N	E
		A		C		Y		L		
M	O	N	S	T	E	R		A	P	P
A		D				A				I
I	T	A	L	Y		M	O	D	E	L
D		G		O		I		O		O
	G	E	S	U	N	D	H	E	I	T

Keyword answer: Play-Doh

Code cracker
crab
lobster
oyster
scallop

Three for all
shake it off
all too well
don't blame me

O	O	X	O	X	O
O	O	X	O	X	X
X	X	O	X	O	O
X	O	X	X	X	O
X	O	O	X	X	O
O	X	O	O	O	X

Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 a) Tiger **2** Las Vegas, Nevada **3** c) Math **4** False. They collected it from samples of his hair. **5** b) Baby goat **6** Coral reefs **7** b) Harry Potter **8** False. It has been celebrated in the US since 1863. **9** b) Cake **10** Albert J. Butterworth **11** c) Indiana Fever **12** True **13** c) Monk vulture **14** *Trolls: Save the Humans* **15** True

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 Which shark species helped scientists find the world's largest meadow of seagrass?

a) Tiger b) Great White c) Bull

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

2 The Oakland Athletics baseball team announced they will move to what city?

1

2

3 The new National Teacher of the Year teaches what subject?

a) English b) History c) Math

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

4 True or false? Scientists were able to collect Ludwig van Beethoven's DNA from his teeth.

True ☐ False ☐

5 In the book *Legends of Lotus Island: The Guardian Test*, what animal does Plum care for?

a) Baby owl b) Baby goat c) Baby deer

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

6 What did researchers recently discover in the waters of the Galápagos Islands?

14

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

7 What classic book series is being turned into a TV show?

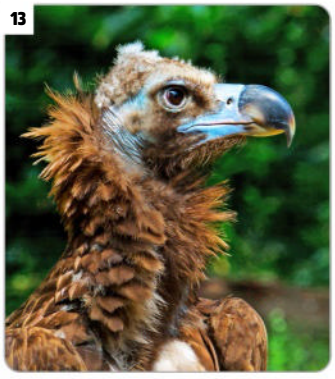
a) The Chronicles of Narnia b) Harry Potter

c) Percy Jackson and the Olympians

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

8 True or false? Cinco de Mayo has been celebrated in the US since 1963.

True ☐ False ☐


13

4

9 What kind of food did scientists make using 3D printing?

a) Cookie b) Cake c) Muffin

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

10 The video game Tin Hearts is set inside the home of an inventor named what?

11 College basketball star Aliyah Boston will play for which professional team?

a) Dallas Wings b) Minnesota Lynx

c) Indiana Fever

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

12 True or false? The Starship rocket that was launched by SpaceX was the most powerful ever built.

True ☐ False ☐

13 What bird species has returned to Bulgaria after being considered extinct there for more than 30 years?

a) Bearded vulture b) Cape vulture

c) Monk vulture

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

14 What is the name of Danish artist Thomas Dambo's new exhibition of giant wooden trolls?

15 True or false? For two days, couples could get married at the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile in Las Vegas, Nevada.

True ☐ False ☐

THE WEEK Junior

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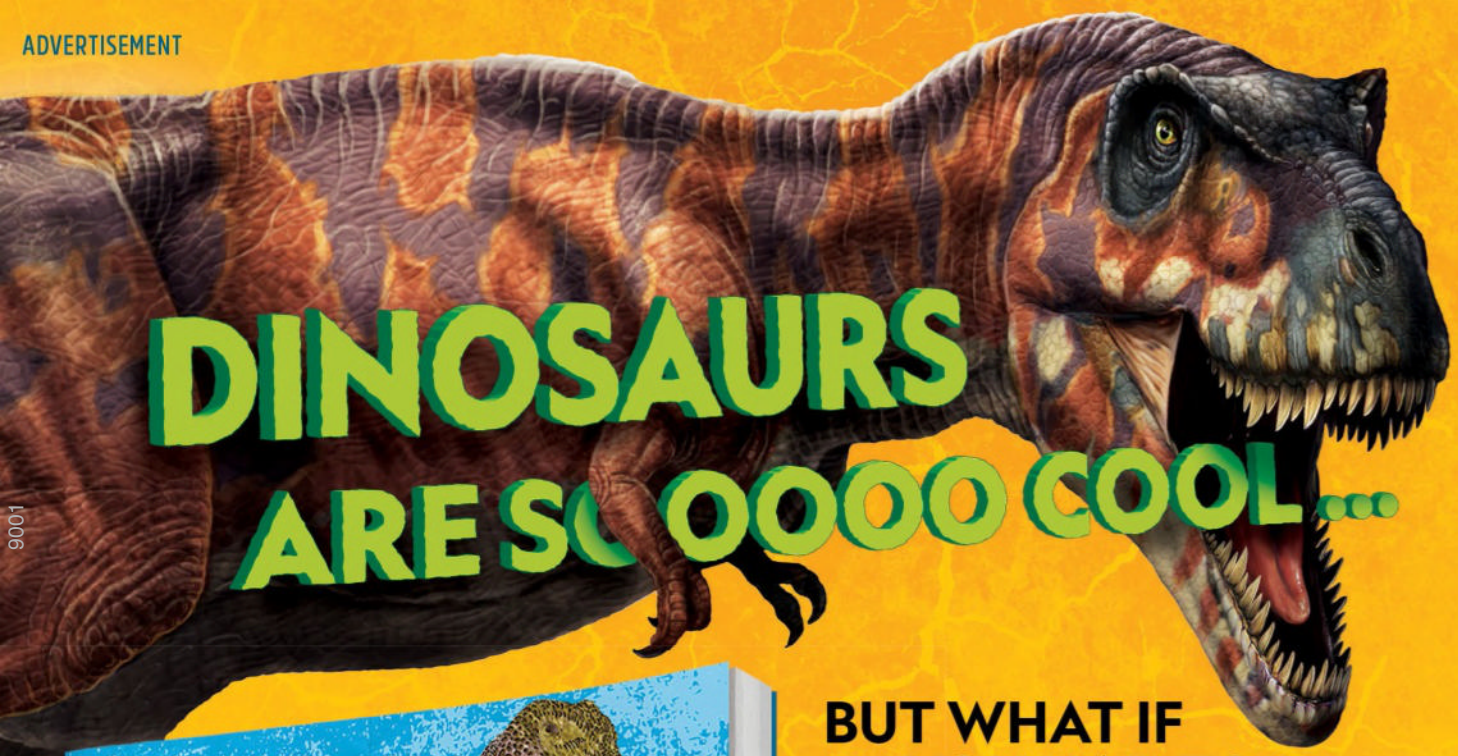
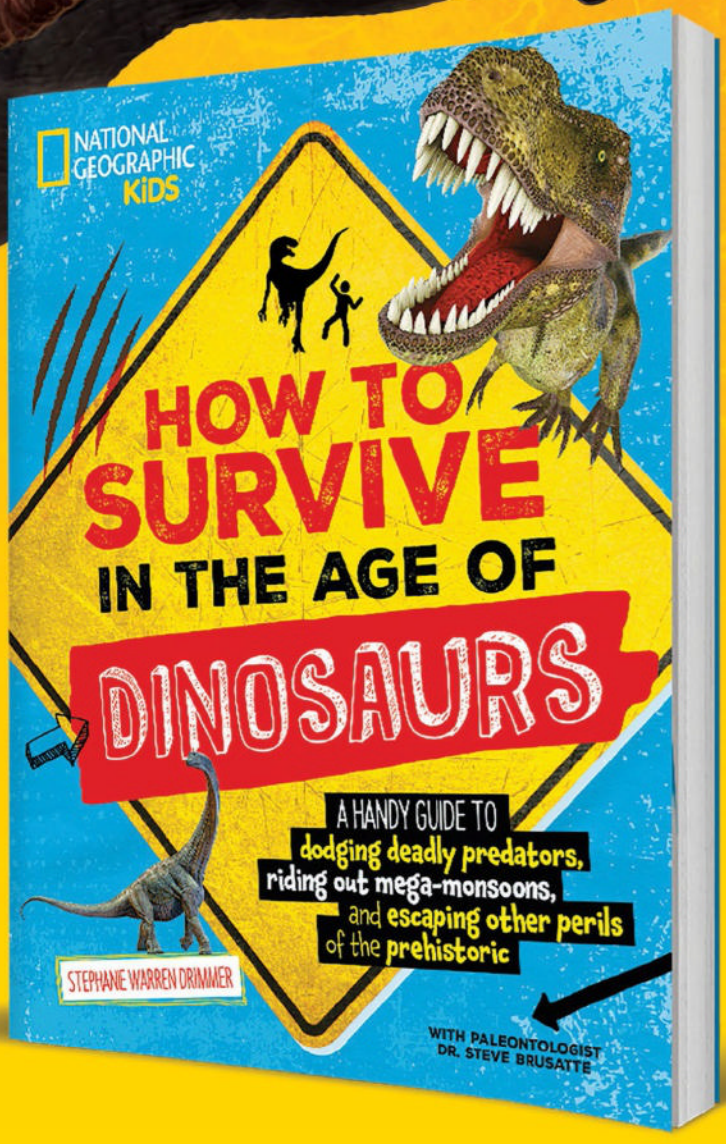


DINOSAURS ARE SOOOO COOL...



BUT WHAT IF YOU HAD TO LIVE WITH THEM?

We've got you covered with all the tips and tricks you need to survive your blast to the past.

Now you're ready to hang out with dinosaurs for a month as we celebrate

DinoMAYnia!
MAY 1-31

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